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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 093304
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY AF/S-DKPETTERSON:LFS
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S/S-O :SRPVALERGA
----------091437 120235Z /61
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 093304

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: VANCE/OWEN VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA

1. SECRETARY VANCE AND DR. OWEN HAVE AGREED ON THE DESIRABILITY OF MEETING WITH PIK BOTHA IN JOHANNESBURG OR PRETORIA TO DISCUSS RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA. BEFORE MAKING A FINAL DECISION, HOWEVER, OWEN WANTS TO HAVE DAVID SCOTT'S ADVICE ABOUT THE ADVISABILITY OF TRYING TO ARRANGE THE MEETING.

2. BY THE TIME YOU RECEIVE THIS CABLE, SCOTT WILL HAVE
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HEARD FROM OWEN, AND MAY HAVE REPLIED. IF, AS WE EXPECT, SCOTT'S ADVICE IS AFFIRMATIVE, YOU SHOULD COORDINATE WITH HIM REGARDING A JOINT APPROACH TO THE SAG. ESSENCE OF OUR MESSAGE IS THAT OWEN AND VANCE WOULD LIKE TO COME TO SOUTH AFRICA FOR TALKS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA ABOUT RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA. (ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD PREFER TO LIMIT TALKS TO THOSE TWO SUBJECTS, THEY WOULD

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BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA.)

3. IF SAG AGREES TO MEET, TENTATIVE PLANS ARE FOR ARRIVAL JOHANNESBURG AFTERNOON OR EVENING APRIL 16. MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE THAT EVENING, WITH OWEN/VANCE PARTY DEPARTING FOLLOWING MORNING FOR SALISBURY. THIS

PLAN IS SUBJECT TO ADVICE WE RECEIVE FROM YOU AND SCOTT AFTER YOU HAVE MET WITH SAG.

4. REALIZE TIMING OF PROPOSED VISIT IS MOST INCONVENIENT GIVEN YOUR TRAVEL PLANS. IN THAT REGARD, YOU MAY WISH TO HAVE NELSON COME TO JOHANNESBURG (OR PRETORIA AS THE CASE MAY BE) FOR THE MEETING, IF IT TAKES PLACE.

5. IF SOUTH AFRICAN TRIP JELLS, SECRETARY PREFERS OVERNIGHT JOHANNESBURG. S/S-EX HAS SENT PROVISIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE TO PRETORIA. VANCE

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